

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 DRC-01 AID-20 /146 W

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R 251132Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3349

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

CINCPAC

COMUSSAG

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

C O N F I D E N T I A L PHNOM PENH 11668

DEPT PASS CJCS AND SECDEF

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MILI, CB

SUBJ: STATUS REPORT ON NATIONAL CONSCRIPTION

1. SUMMARY. THE NATIONAL CONSCRIPTION CAMPAIGN IS CONTINUING TO FUNCTION RELATIVELY SMOOTHLY IN PHNOM PENH AND TOTAL RECRUITS NOW EXCEED 3,300. THE CITY IS NOW STATIONING OFFICIALS IN THE LOWER LEVEL SUBDIVISIONS TO ASSIST AND SUPERVISE REGISTRATION. INCENTIVE PAYMENTS AND PROMOTIONS ARE BEING GIVEN GENERAL MOBILIZATION AND CITY OFFICIALS TO STIMULATE BETTER RESULTS. NO REAL EFFORT HAS AS YET BEEN MADE TO BRING IN EVADERS PERHAPS IN PART BECAUSE EXAMINING BOARDS ARE WORKING AT NEAR FULL CAPACITY. END SUMMARY

2. AS OF CLOSE OF BUSINESS ON OCTOBER 24 THE FANK RECEPTION CENTER HAD RECEIVED A TOTAL OF 3,338 RECRUITS, BROKEN DOWN INTO 510 CONSCRIPTS AND 2,828 VOLUNTEERS. (TH BREAKDOWN BETWEEN CONSCRIPTS AND VOLUNTEERS AS REPORTED REFTEL WAS INCORRECT, THUS ACCOUNTING FOR THE APPARENT REDUCTION
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IN TOTAL CONSCRIPTS).

RESULTS WERE SOMEWHAT LOWER THAN USUAL YESTERDAY (BECAUSE OF THE CELEBRATION OF UN DAY) WITH CITY OFFICIALS REPORTING 159 NEW RECRUITS. THE TOTAL FOR OCTOBER 23 WAS 381, 39 DRAFTEES AND 342 VOLUNTEERS (CITY FIGURES DO NOT COMPRISE THE TOTAL INPUT TO THE RECEIPTION CENTER, WHICH IS ALSO ACCEPTING VOLUNTEERS DIRECTLY).

3. EMBASSY OFFICERS VISITING KHANDS DECHO AND DAUN PENH TODAY FOUND CONSCRIPTION OFFICIALS HARD AT WORK SCREENING POTENTIAL DRAFTEES AND MUCH MORE CONFIDENT THAN IN THE PAST THAT THE SYSTEM NOW ESTABLISHED WILL CONTINUE TO PRODUCE ACCEPTABLE RESULTS. THIS SYSTEM VARIES CONSIDERABLY FROM KHAND TO KHAND, HOWEVER. AT THE CITY'S LARGEST SUBDIVISION, DECHO, FOR EXAMPLE, THE NAMES OF THOSE WHO FAIL TO RESPOND TO CONVOCATIONS ARE SENT IMMEDIATELY TO THE POLICE (WHO HAVE THUS FAR ROUNDED UP VERY FEW OF THEM) WHILE AT DAUN PENH, ONE OF THE SMALLER SUBDIVISIONS, THEY ARE HELD FOR ISSUANCE OF A SECOND CONVOCATION ORDER. AT DAUN PENH MANY OF THOSE WHO ARE ELIGIBLE FOR DEFERMENT ARE SCREENED OUT AT LOWER LEVELS, AT SOME RISK OF LOSING ELIGIBLES, WHILE DECHO BRINGS EVERYONE TO THE EXAMINING BOARD AT THE KHAND OFFICE, PLACING A TREMENDOUS BURDEN ON BOARD OFFICIALS. IN GENERAL THE DIFFERENCES ARE MATTERS OF INTERPRETATION AND REFLECT THE INITIATIVE OF KHAND CHIEFS IN ADAPTING THE REGULATIONS TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF THEIR OWN SITUATION AND STYLE OF OPERATION.

4. THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE CITY GOVERNMENT INFORMED US TODAY THAT OFFICIALS ARE BEING ASSIGNED TO EACH OF THE CITY'S 249 THIRD LEVEL SUBDIVISIONS (SOUS-ILOTS) TO ASSIST IN AND OVERSEE REGISTRATION OPERATIONS. THIS MOVE SEEMS TO SUPERCEDE THE DEPLOYMENT OF INVESTIGATIVE AND CONTROL TEAMS, WHICH AS FAR AS WE ARE ABLE TO DETERMINE HAVE NOT PROPERLY FUNCTIONED IN ANY OF THE KHANDS.

5. ACCORDING TO THE CITY'S SECRETARY GENERAL, A DECISION HAS BEEN TAKEN TO MAKE AN INCENTIVE PAYMENT OF 3000 RIESL T LOW LEVEL (SOUS-ILOT) GENERAL MOBILIZATION OFFICIALS, WHO ARE OTHERWISE UNPAID, AS AN ENCOURAGEMENT TO MORE

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ACTIVE EFFORTS IN THE CONSCRIPTION PROGRAM. THE PAYMENTS WILL BEGIN TODAY. IN ADDITION HE NOTED THAT ALL HIGHER LEVEL CITY EMPLOYEES HAVE BEEN INFORMED THAT THEY WILL RECEIVE PROMOTIONS IF THEY PRODUCE OUTSTANDING RESULTS. THE DAUN PENH KHAND CHIEF HAS ALREADY RECEIVED A LETTER OF COMMENDATION FOR EXCEEDING HIS QUOTA OF DRAFTEES DURING THE FIRST TWO WEEKS OF THE PROGRAM.

ENDERS

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NNN

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